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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year, 1937

LAURENCE GIBSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Lowestoft:

FLOOD & SON, LTD., THE BOROUGH PRESS

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

							Lothingland R.D.
Area of District (including inland water)	Acres	..					44,653
Population (Census figures) 1931	..	..	..				13,626
„ estimated by Registrar General for 1937							14,420
Gross Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	222
Nett Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	220
Nett Birthrate	..	..	..	..	per 1000		15.25
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	179
Death Rate Recorded	..	..	..		per 1000		12.41
„ „ adjusted with Comparability Factor*					„		9.68
„ „ Standardized†	..	..	..	..	„		7.94
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 births	..	..					45.45
Zymotic Death Rate	..	..	..		per 1000		0.277
Tuberculosis Death Rate	..	..		„	„		0.624
Cancer Death Rate	..	..	..	„	„		1.456
Influenza Death Rate	..	..	..	„	„		0.485
Pneumonia Death Rate	..	..	..	„	„		0.277

*The Comparability Factor is a factor by which the crude death rate is modified to allow for the age and sex distribution of the area and is 0.78 for the Lothingland Rural District.

†The factor for the Standardized Death Rate is 0.82 to be applied after the previous factor.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
LOTHINGLAND RURAL DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1937.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in presenting you with my Annual Report for the year 1937.

The population of the district estimated by the Registrar General is 14,420 and on this figure the various rates are based.

There were 222 births registered during the year (117 males and 105 females) this is the gross number, after allowing for inward and outward transfers the nett number is 220 (118 males and 102 females) which gives a birth rate of 15.25 per 1000, a slight decrease on last year when the birth rate was 15.53 per 1000.

The nett number of deaths after allowing for 49 inward transfers and 69 outward transfers was 179 (99 males and 80 females) giving a death rate of 12.41 per 1000, a decrease on last year when it was 12.65 per 1000.

For England and Wales in 1937, the birth rate was 14.9 and the death rate 12.4 per 1000.

The nett number of illegitimate births was 6 (3 males and 3 females). This gives a percentage of 2.72 of the total live births or 0.416 per 1000 of the population.

There were 6 still births (3 males and 3 females) all being legitimate. This gives a rate of 0.42 per 1000 population. Last year it was 0.69. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 0.60.

One hundred and three deaths (55 males and 48 females) were in persons aged 65 years and upwards and constitute 57.54 per cent. of the total deaths. Of these 40 were between 65 and 75 years of age, 45 between 75 and 85 years, 16 between 85 and 95 years and 2 over 95 years.

INFANT DEATHS—Ten infants (5 males and 5 females) died under 1 year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 45.45 per 1000, live births.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 46.73 for legitimate infants and nil for illegitimate infants.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales for 1937 is 58 per 1000.

Of those Infant Deaths 3 took place in Hospital. Two twin pregnancies proved fatal to each pair. 6 were under 4 weeks of age.

The Infant Deaths occurred in the following parishes:—Barnby (1) Carlton Colville (3) Fritton (1) Lound (1) Reydon (1) Somerleyton (1) and South Cove (2).

ZYMOTIC DEATHS—There were no deaths from Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria or Infant Diarrhoea. There were 2 deaths from Measles and 2 from Whooping Cough, giving a Zymotic Death Rate of 0.277 per 1,000, the death rate from each being 0.138.

In order to show how the Zymotic Death rate has improved in the last 50 years, I give the average rates from 1875 to 1930 in 10 year groups.

AVERAGE ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

From 1878-1884	..	..	..	..	1.63	per	1,000
„ 1889-1898	..	..	..	..	1.40	„	„
„ 1901-1910	..	..	..	..	0.91	„	„
„ 1911-1920	..	..	..	..	0.52	„	„
„ 1921-1930	..	..	..	..	0.22	„	„
„ 1931-1937	....	....	....	....	0.19	„	„

For England and Wales the Zymotic Death rates per 1,000 population were as follows:—Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers 0.00; Measles 0.02; Scarlet Fever 0.01; Whooping Cough 0.04; Diphtheria 0.07. This year Diphtheria and Whooping Cough have been more fatal. Enteritis (under 2 years of age) caused 5.8 deaths per 1,000 live births.

Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases caused 9 deaths, giving a death rate of 0.62 per 1,000. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system caused 7 deaths with a death rate of 0.485 per 1,000. Other tuberculous diseases caused 2 deaths with a death rate of 0.138 per 1,000.

Cancer caused 21 deaths with a death rate of 1.456 per 1,000.

Last year there were 19 deaths with a death rate of 1.306 per 1,000 and the previous year 30 deaths.

Pneumonia caused 4 deaths with a death rate of 0.277 per 1,000, this is an improvement on last year when there were 12 deaths. The 4 died at the following ages. Male aged 70. Females aged, 4, 56 and 61. One died in Hospital.

Influenza caused 7 deaths with a death rate of 0.485 per 1,000. For England and Wales in 1937, the death rate was 0.45 per 1,000.

Twelve deaths of residents were certified by the Coroner after holding an Inquest, a percentage of 6.7 of the total deaths. Ten were due to Violence, a percentage of 5.59 of the total deaths or 0.69 per 1,000 of the population. For England and Wales the comparative figure is 0.54 per 1,000.

Four deaths were certified by the Coroner after a post mortem examination and no inquest, a percentage of 2.23 of the total deaths.

No deaths were uncertified. Three were due to motor car accidents.

Maternal Mortality—There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other puerperal causes. For England and Wales the rate per 1,000 live and still births was 0.94 for Puerperal Sepsis and 2.17 for other puerperal causes, giving a total of 3.11.

The deaths from Cancer were at the following ages :—

Males aged 32, 55, 57, 60, 61, 69, 69, 78, 80, 82, and 91.

Females aged 47, 48, 56, 58, 62, 66, 70, and 71.

This year the ages of the Cancer deaths are about the same as in England and Wales, 62 per cent. dying between the ages of 45 and 70. In England and Wales in 1929, about 60 per cent died between these ages.

I give the following table to compare the case rates of various infectious diseases, i.e., the number of cases per 1,000 of the population for each disease during the past 6 years and the case rates for England and Wales for 1937.

Disease	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	England & Wales 1937
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.59	1.16	1.14	2.62	2.04	4.19	1.87	2.33
Diphtheria	0.42	0.56	0.32	0.49	0.20	0.62	0.00	1.49
Enteric Fever	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.14	0.05
Puerperal Fever	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
„ Pyrexia	0.17	0.00	0.08	0.07	0.14	0.14	0.14	—
Erysipelas	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.21	0.14	0.21	0.28	0.37
Ophthalmia								—
Neonatorum	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.14	0.00	0.14	—
Pneumonia	0.33	0.32	0.40	0.56	0.54	1.37	1.04	1.36

The rates for Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia are better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate for Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia is 8.85 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

For England and Wales the corresponding rate is 13.93 per 1,000.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NOTIFICATION) ACT 1889.

38 notifications were received under this Act, which is a decrease on last year, when there were 77. They were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	27
Paratyphoid B.	..	..	..	..	2
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	2
Polio-myelitis	..	..	..	..	1
Opthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	2

SCARLET FEVER. There were 27 cases notified as compared with 61 last year. These cases occurred in the following parishes :—Carlton Colville (4) Frostenden (1) Gisleham (2) Henham (1) Hulver (1) Kessingland (4), Mutford (2), Rushmere (3) Uggeshall (2), Wangford (2) and Wrentham (5).

They were notified in the following months :—January (2), April (1), June (4), July (6), August (1), September (2), October (6), November (1) and December (4).

In two houses there were two cases each about the same time. In one house two children were notified and kept at home, a fortnight later the mother was infected and all were removed to Hospital.

The six cases in July appeared to be due to infection at school.

There were 34 susceptible children (i.e., children under 15 who had not had the disease) in the houses where the case was removed to Hospital and there was one return case.

In the homes of the home-nursed cases there were four susceptible children and there was one return case.

This year there is still evidence that Scarlet Fever is more liable to develop where there are more persons per room than the average. The average number of persons per room in the Rural District at the 1931 Census was 0.69. In the households affected by Scarlet Fever, the average number of persons per room was (a) where the case was removed to Hospital 1.07 and (b) where the case was nursed at home 0.79.

The majority of cases were of a mild type, which made diagnosis a matter of difficulty and missed cases were sometimes discovered when desquamating.

PARATYPHOID B :—Two cases were notified in October and December from Oulton and Corton. Both were removed to Hospital. Three members of the families were engaged in the milk trade, their employers were instructed to put them on other work till a blood test had been made and given a negative result.

ERYSIPELAS :—Four cases were notified in February, April, November and December, from Corton (1) Kessingland (2) and Bradwell (1).

PUERPERAL PYREXIA:—The two cases were notified from Easton Bavents and Frostenden in January and August. Both were treated in Hospital and recovered.

POLIO-MYELITIS :—This case a boy aged 5 was notified from Wangford in September and isolated at home.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM :— Two cases from Carlton Colville and Frostenden in July and August. The latter was treated in Hospital. Both recovered.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1937.

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	27	20	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	2	2	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	0
Pneumonia	15	3	4
Polio myelitis	1	0	1
Erysipelas	4	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	0

AGE GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

		Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia
Under	1 year	0	0	0	0	0
Between	1-2 years	2	0	0	0	0
	2-3 „	1	0	0	0	1
	3-4 „	1	0	0	0	3
	4-5 „	6	0	0	0	0
	5-10 „	10	0	0	0	4
	10-15 „	5	0	1	0	0
	15-20 „	0	0	0	0	1
	20-35 „	2	0	1	0	5
	35-45 „	0	0	0	1	0
	45-65 „	0	0	0	1	1
65 years & upwards		0	0	0	2	0

TABLE COMPARING THIS YEAR WITH 5 PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
1932	20	7	2	1	1	0	1
1933	13	4	0	0	0	1	1
1934	37	7	0	3	0	1	1
1935	30	3	7	2	0	2	2
1936	61	9	0	3	0	2	0
1937	27	0	2	4	0	2	2

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA AND ACUTE POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS) REGULATIONS, (1918—1919).

Those Regulations are still in force and one case of Poliomyelitis was notified.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS, 1927.

Fifteen cases of Pneumonia were notified under those Regulations from the following parishes :—Burgh Castle (1), Carlton Colville (1), Hopton (1), Kessingland (8), Lound (1), Mutford (1), Oulton (1) and Wrentham (1).

They were notified in the following months :—February (1), March (3), May (3), June (2), July (1), August (2), September (1) and December (2).

Of the 15 cases, 3 were notified as Broncho Pneumonia, 3 as Influenzal Pneumonia and 9 as Lobar Pneumonia. Three cases were treated in Hospital.

Of the deaths from Pneumonia, there were 4. Of these 2 died in Hospital. One was a sudden death, and the other was certified by the Coroner, after a post mortem and no inquest. Two were cases of Broncho Pneumonia and one of Pleuro Pneumonia.

They belonged to the following parishes :—Belton (1), Burgh Castle (1), Hopton (1) and Blundeston (1).

TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1912, 1921, 1924.

Under those Regulations 27 notifications were received, 17 pulmonary and 10 non-pulmonary. Last year there were 37 notifications.

Of the 17 pulmonary cases 8 were on Form A (i.e., were notified as new cases), 1 of whom had been notified before, 4 were on Form C. (i.e., notified on admission to a Sanatorium); 2 were on Form D, (i.e., notified on discharge from an Institution), 3 were notified otherwise than by notification (i.e., cases that had moved into the district and had been notified before).

Of the 4 cases on Form C and 2 cases on Form D, all had been notified before.

Of the 10 non-pulmonary cases, 5 were on Form A. (1 of whom had been notified before.) 2 on Form D. (both notified before) 2 notified as coming into the district, and 1 case was restored to the Register.

AGE AND SEX OF CASES NOTIFIED.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F
0—1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 „	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
15—25 „	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
25—35 „	—	3	1	1	1	2	—	—
35—45 „	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—65 „	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	5	3	2	4	3	1	1

Four of the Pulmonary cases received Sanatorium treatment and 7 of the Non-pulmonary cases were treated in Hospital.

This year the houses of the Respiratory cases show that they are below the average as regards accommodation based on the number of persons per room. For the whole district the average number of persons per room is 0.69 (according to the 1931 Census figures) whereas the affected households have 0.74 persons per room.

In the non-respiratory cases there are 0.82 persons per room.

In all the notified cases the house is visited and inspected for defects liable to be injurious to health and disinfectants and literature are provided for the Respiratory cases in order to lessen the danger of infection and to remind them of the precautions they must take. In fatal cases or where the patient is removed to a Sanatorium or changes his address, the house is disinfected with Formalin gas and spray and all infected bedding is removed for steam disinfection.

At the beginning of the year there were 65 cases on the Register, 38 pulmonary (17 males and 21 females), and 27 non-pulmonary (18 males and 9 females). During the year 19 cases were added, 11 pulmonary (4 males and 7 females), and 8 non-pulmonary (5 males and 3 females), 24 cases were deducted, 16 pulmonary (7 males and 9 females) and 8 non-pulmonary (3 males and 5 females).

At the end of the year there were 60 cases, 33 pulmonary (14 males and 19 females), and 27 non-pulmonary (20 males and 7 females).

The causes of removal were as follows :—9 died, 8 cured, 5 removed from the area and 2 were found to be non-tuberculous.

Of the fatal cases of Phthisis, 6 out of 7 were notified.

TABLE OF CASES NOTIFIED IN PREVIOUS 5 YEARS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1932	3	6	2	5
1933	4	6	1	0
1934	2	8	2	3
1935	4	5	7	2
1936	4	3	6	3

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1927.

It has not be found necessary to take any action under these Regulations as no tuberculous person is employed in the handling of milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. SEC. 62.

It has not been found necessary to take any action under this Section as no Phthisis case was found to be living in overcrowded surroundings, so that they were unable to have a separate room.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year 39 samples of water were examined chemically and one bacteriologically, being taken from wells in the following parishes :—Barnby (1), Belton (3), Bradwell (5), Burgh Castle (4), Carlton Colville (1), Covehithe (1), Easton Bavents (2), Frostenden (1), Gisleham (2), Hulver (1), Kessingland (1), Lound (1), South Cove (1), Wangford (1) and Wrentham (7).

Of these samples 20 were from old wells and 19 from new wells.

The old wells were in the following parishes :—Burgh Castle (3), Carlton Colville (1), Covehithe (1), Easton Bavents (2), Frostenden (1), Gisleham (1), Hulver (1), Lound (1), South Cove (1), Wangford (1), and Wrentham (7).

Of these old wells, all the samples were taken for the first time for some years. Nine might be passed as satisfactory. Of the others, 4 were cleaned, one was not used, another supply being available. In 5 cases the tenants were advised to boil the water before use. In one case a new well was sunk, the old well being full of tree roots which gave the water a smell and reaction of Sulphuretted Hydrogen.

The new wells were in the following parishes :—Barnby (2), Belton (3), Bradwell (5), Burgh Castle (1), Gisleham (1), and Kessingland (7).

Of the 19 samples, 16 were taken for the first time, of those 10 were good and 6 were bad, 2 were taken for the second time and found good, and 1 was good on the third analysis.

The Bacteriological sample was taken on account of a suspected case of Typhoid Fever. The result was satisfactory. Bacteria on Agar at 37°C. numbered 15, and there were no B Coli in 75 c.c.

In six cases the tenant was allowed to occupy the house before the well proved satisfactory, as he was able to show to the Council that he had permission to get water from a good well within a reasonable distance. This temporary arrangement is approved for not more than three months and before then the water is tested again, if good a Certificate is issued, if not another three months may be allowed. This is done to enable the tenant to get into his house without delay and so set free another house and help in the reduction of the shortage of houses. Also by the daily use of the well water for washing purposes and in the garden, the quality of the water is more likely to improve.

This concession is only granted when the owner has made provision for a water supply by sinking a well and not where an owner-occupier from motives of economy, borrows water from a neighbour's well, which may be so far away that a minimum of water is used, owing to the labour involved. In the majority of the houses, water butts are used for collecting rain water, as its qualities are appreciated for washing purposes.

Again I find that new wells can give a good result with the first analysis, if the builder sinks the well before starting the house, then uses the water for building purposes and at the same time is careful to prevent contamination with surface water.

A large number of new wells gave a good result on the first analysis as the builders took my advice to pump out the well several times before the sample was taken.

Under Sec. 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, it is necessary to have a Water Certificate before a house is occupied in a Rural District and 12 Certificates have been issued for 25 houses in the following parishes :—Barnby (1), Belton (2), Bradwell (10), Carlton Colville (4), Gisleham (3) and Kessingland (5).

The majority of the houses in the district which depend on wells, get their water from shallow wells which vary in depth from four to forty feet. They are usually built of brick but a few have been built of concrete rings, which is less liable to percolation. Also there are a few tube wells from 70 to 100 feet which give a more reliable supply.

During the year further steps have been taken to provide a public water supply for the parish of Kessingland. The well at the Nordals, of which I gave details in my Annual Report for last year was not considered a satisfactory supply on account of the danger of pollution. It was decided to sink a well at Henstead and by the end of the year a start had been made.

The public water supply for the district comes from the Lowestoft Water Company's mains which are laid through several parishes on their way to Lowestoft and have been extended to Corton. Parts of Belton, Bradwell, Hopton, Somerleyton and Carlton Colville are also supplied.

During the year extensions have been made at Blundeston (204 yards) and Hopton (2,400 yards).

Their supply comes from a chain of lakes fed by springs at Lound, this is supplemented by filtered water from the River Bure.

The water is purified by sand filtration, chlorination and storage, and gives a good result on analysis, both chemical and bacteriological.

During the year additional plant has been provided for the treatment of the water by the modern method of rapid filtration. The supply is constant and sufficient and there was no need for restricting its use during the dry season.

I am indebted to the Manager of the Lowestoft Water Company for the following information on the bacteriological purity of their water.

12 monthly samples incubated on Agar at 37°c. gave 0—7 Bacteria per c.c. and no B Coli found in 100 c.c.

A more detailed bacteriological report was as follows :—

	MARCH	JUNE	SEPTEMBER
On Agar for 3 days at 20°c.	14	7	1
On Agar for 1 day at 37°c.	1	0	0
On Agar for 2 days at 37°c.	2	2	0

The number of houses in the district supplied by the Company is 554, and increase of 105 since 1935. They are in the following parishes :—Belton (5), Blundeston (94), Bradwell (1), Carlton Colville (146), Corton (161), Hopton (79), Lound (58), Oulton (5) and Somerleyton (5).

The parish of Reydon is supplied by the Southwold Water Company, 324 houses being supplied, an increase of 53 since 1935.

I am indebted to the Secretary of the Southwold Water Company for the figures of two recent analysis which show their two wells provide a pure and wholesome water.

Parts per 100,000				(1)	(2)
Chlorine in Chrides	..	..	..	3.6	3.0
Saline Ammonia	..	..	..	0.0000	0.0000
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	0.0018	0.0012
Nitrogen in Nitrates	..	..	..	0.46	0.88
Nitrites	..	..	..	Absent	Absent
Metals	..	..	..	Absent	Absent
Hardness	{	Permanent	..	8.0	9.5
		Temporary	..	20.0	5.5
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	..	..	..	0.03	0.025
Number of Bacteria per c.c.	..	..	..
On Agar in 3 days at 20°C.	..	..	..	18	14
On Agar in 1 day at 37°C.	..	..	..	1	1
On Agar in 2 days at 37°C.	..	..	..	8	1
Bacillus Coli	..	..	..	absent in 100 c.c.	absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii	..	..	..	absent in 100 c.c.	absent in 100 c.c.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There are no rivers in the District apart from the Waveney, which forms the northern boundary of the area and no complaints of its pollution have been made. All the parishes on its banks have marshes which are liable to be flooded, but during the year there was no serious flooding.

The Hundred River or Stream on the old southern boundary of the area is still liable to cause flooding of the marshes through which it flows. This year some dredging has taken place in the main channel. The outlet at Benacre Sluice was reconstructed and lengthened in 1930. Unfortunately Covehithe Ness, a sandbank to the south, is gradually moving north and has a tendency to block the mouth of the sluice, this has to be cleared before the water can get away. This causes the marshes to be flooded and at the beginning of the year work was in progress to lengthen the sluice outlet. Although this work is not completed a more satisfactory state of affairs exists and there has been less silting up. It is to be hoped that in a few years the Ness will have moved far enough to the North to clear the end of the sluice and there will be no further difficulty. As the effluent from the Kessingland Sewage Works is disposed of by this means, there is a danger of a nuisance being caused if it is held up too long in the dykes.

The southern boundary is the River Blyth and Buss Creek. There have been no complaints of its pollution.

COAST EROSION.

In the early part of the year Kessingland suffered considerably. Four houses (Shepherd Villas) fell into the sea and Cliff Cottages were rendered uninhabitable. The danger of the sea breaking through and flooding the marshes was anticipated by the Catchment Board, who built a wall across the low lying part at the back of the Lifeboat Shed. At the end of the year a start was made on a sea wall to protect the cliffs from further damage.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The parishes of Kessingland, Corton and Reydon are provided with drainage schemes kept up by special rates on those parishes and the sewers take all but the outlying houses.

At Kessingland the sewers lead to collecting tanks, from them the sewage is pumped on to first and second contact beds and the sludge pumped into pits. The effluent percolates into a small stream and finds its way by dykes across the marshes to the sea by Benacre Sluice. Unless the dykes are kept clean the effluent is held up and liable to cause nuisance.

There are 360 premises with 124 water closets and 52 baths connected to the sewer. In addition there are 400 pail closets, 541 dustbins and 39 cesspools, which are emptied by the scavengers. In 1934 the system of a contractor carrying out the scavenging was given up and the work is done by men employed by the Council under the supervision of the Surveyor and the refuse disposed of by "controlled tipping." This arrangement is an improvement on the old system.

At Corton the outfall of the sewer to the sea continues to work in a satisfactory manner since its reconstruction in 1928. 137 premises are connected to the sewer, including 99 water closets. A public lavatory has been erected in the vicinity of the beach.

The parish of Reydon is provided with an up-to-date sewerage system which takes in all but the outlying houses. Part is drained to the Blackwater pumping station, from there the sewage is pumped through a rising main to join the main sewer which leads to the disposal works. There the sewage is treated in septic tanks and the effluent discharged into Buss Creek, a tributary of the River Blyth.

During the year the original pumps at the Blackwater pumping station were replaced by two Blackstone "Unchokeable" pumps.

The scavenging of the Parish of Reydon is carried out by a contractor who deposits the refuse in a form of controlled tipping near the sewage disposal works. This is an improvement on the old site not far from the main road, where uncontrolled tipping was carried out.

The private installation at Somerleyton continues to work very well and causes no nuisances.

At Gorleston Golf Links at the North end of the parishes of Corton and Hopton the bungalows and houses round the Links have their own drainage system. There was some difficulty at first in disposing of the sewerage but now part is treated in a septic tank system and part is pumped to a settling tank on the cliff and after filtration finds its way to the sea without causing any serious nuisance. There was a suggestion that the Council should take over the system but no decision has been reached. Now the Great Yarmouth sewers at Gorleston are within a short distance of the boundary, it is to be hoped an agreement may be made whereby this property is drained into the Gorleston sewers.

At Pakefield, Council houses (now Hadenham Terrace, Carlton Colville) the storage tank with an automatic electric pump installed in 1934, which pumps to the sewer in Carlton Road, caused no trouble, The six Council houses being erected on a site adjoining Hadenham Terrace are also to be drained by this system.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only one in the district is a fat and bone boiling establishment at Oulton, which also treats surplus fish. During the year there has been a freedom from complaints, but nevertheless the factory has been kept under supervision and no serious nuisance found.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928. There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured or sold.

There are no underground sleeping places in the district.

SCHOOLS.

No schools were closed on account of infectious diseases during the year although there were outbreaks of minor infectious diseases at certain schools during the year. In three cases children under 5 were excluded when there was an outbreak. By keeping the school open during an outbreak of disease a certain amount of supervision can be kept over the children, slight symptoms, which might be missed at home, can be noted, absentees can be visited and kept under observation or may be found to be mild cases.

From the returns sent to me by the Head Teacher the more severe outbreaks were as follows :—

At Blundeston, Measles in June.

At Burgh Castle, Chickenpox in November.

At Carlton Colville, Measles in July.

At Henham, Influenza in January.

At Kessingland Upper, Measles in July.

At Reydon, Measles in May.

At Wrentham Junior, Mumps from May to July.

Home Contacts of Scarlet Fever were excluded for a week if the case was removed to Hospital and Diphtheria Contacts were excluded for a fortnight.

WATER SUPPLY TO SCHOOLS—Lound, Corton and Reydon are provided with the public water supply. The others depend on wells sometimes at a considerable distance from the school. At Frostenden, rain water is depended on for a supply, unless borrowed from a well at a neighbouring cottage. At Kessingland, the Special Subjects Centre has an electric pump.

Washing arrangements show no alterations on last year.

LIGHTING—Electric light is used at both the schools at Kessingland, Burgh Castle, Blundeston, Bradwell, Corton and Reydon. Seven of the others have oil lamps and six have no form of artificial lighting.

At Wrentham Senior School, although there is electric light fitted in some of the classrooms, it is not used for school purposes.

PROVISION FOR MILK—Where the children agree to contribute, either milk, Horlick's Malted Milk, cocoa or dinner is provided. At Reydon half the children stay for dinner. Accredited milk is used at Burgh Castle, Grade A (T.T.) milk at Carlton Colville, Pasteurized milk at Corton and Somerleyton. Horlick's Malted Milk at Belton, Blundeston, Fritton, Henham, Henstead, Kessingland (2) Reydon, and Wrentham (2). Cocoa is used at Frostenden, Hopton and Lound.

PLAYGROUNDS—Several are in a rough state, liable to cause abrasions, also water collects in wet weather.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS—Water closets are provided at Corton and Reydon, the remainder have pail closets which are kept in clean condition and emptied once a week, except at Bradwell, Henham, Lound, Somerleyton and Wrentham Junior, where they are emptied twice a week.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS—There are no public or private swimming baths or pools in the area.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS—One house was discovered to be infested with bugs and the landlord received notice to cleanse. This was done and so far there has been no recurrence.

INFANT WELFARE.

The Centre which was opened at Kessingland in 1927 was continued during the year at the Village Institute, to which the Centre was removed in July 1931, where the accommodation consists of a large room for the mothers and children in which the weighing takes place and a smaller room for consultation.

During the session the nurse is in attendance for weighing and the ladies of the Committee attend in rotation to assist. I wish to place on record my thanks to those ladies, without whose interest and help the Centre could not have been carried on.

During the year, sessions were held every fortnight on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 3 p.m., and a fair average of attendance was maintained, the decrease during the year was possibly due to a change of nurses.

Fifty-eight children were placed on the Register as having attended during the year. Of those 10 were new cases who had not attended previously and 48 had attended before. Of the 10 new cases 5 were under 1 year of age and 5 were over 1 year of age. Large numbers can never be expected as the population of Kessingland is under 2,000, but mothers from adjoining parishes can and do attend. The total number is a decrease on last year when 76 were placed on the Register. The low attendance during the summer months may be due to the greater attractions of the beach.

The Centre was opened on 24 occasions during 1937, on Wednesday at 3 p.m., and a doctor was in attendance at 23 sessions. The total number of children's attendances was 349 which gives an average attendance of 14.5 per session. The total number of consultations was 268, or an average of 11.5 per session.

	Number of Sessions	Children attending		Consultations	
		Number	Average	Number	Average
1st quarter	6	108	18	67	11.1
2nd quarter	6	94	15.7	75	12.5
3rd quarter	6	65	10.8	53	10.6
4th quarter	6	82	13.7	73	12.1

As was done in previous years, children from 1 to 5 years old have been attending and put in 186 attendances, almost the same number as last year. In several cases the parents were advised to seek medical aid for ailments, which if left untreated might become chronic and cause permanent disability and require prolonged treatment.

A stock of Virol is kept, which is supplied to necessitous cases at as reasonable a price as is possible.

At Wrentham a Centre conducted by Dr. Bracewell was opened in October, 1934. It is held fortnightly at the Town Hall Club Rooms. During 1936 there were 952 children's attendances and 398 consultations.

HOUSING.

Housing conditions are being improved slowly. New houses are being built and some are within the means of the working classes. The Council took steps to provide houses under the Housing Act, 1924. In 1930, 12 houses were built at Kessingland under this Act. In 1931 houses were built in the following parishes:—Corton (12), Fritton (4), Hopton (4), and Lound (4). In 1932 houses were built at:—Blundeston (8), Carlton Colville (12), Pakefield (12), Barnby (4) and Bradwell (8). In 1934, 8 houses were finished in the parish of Belton. If the subsidy under the Housing Act, 1924, had not been discontinued, the yearly programme would have been continued to the benefit of the parishes. As it was the Belton houses would not have been built if a site had not been presented.

In the new area added to the district in 1934, there were Council houses in the following parishes:—Frostenden (4), Henstead (6), Wangford (16), and Wrentham (18). In the parishes added to Lowestoft at that time there were 12 houses in Pakefield but that part of Pakefield was added to Carlton Colville.

In 1936, houses were completed in the following parishes:—Kessingland (12), Lound (4), Barnby (4) and Reydon (8). In 1937, Carlton Colville (4), Bradwell (8) and Wrentham (4) and houses were being built at Kessingland (8), Hopton (4), Carlton Colville (Pakefield) (6) and Burgh Castle (4).

Under the Housing Acts, 1930 and 1935, 5 houses in the following parishes:—Belton (2), Hopton (1), and Uggheshall (2), were recommended for demolition. At Belton the owner was refused a grant under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act and offered to repair the property. The others are still under consideration.

I am indebted to the Surveyor for the following figures of the number of houses completed during 1937:—Bradwell (12), Burgh Castle (1), Carlton Colville (5), Corton (2), Easton Bavents (1), Gisleham (2), Hopton (4), Kessingland (13), Lound (1), Reydon (41) and Wrentham (5). This gives a total of 87 houses and includes 16 Council houses, 9 reconditioned or converted, 1 constructed of asbestos sheeting and 1 of corrugated iron.

During the year plans have been passed for 102 houses (including 22 Council houses) as compared with 90 last year. Of these 96 were of brick, 2 of wood and 4 conversions.

They were situated in the following parishes:—Barnby (3), Belton (1), Bradwell (13), Burgh Castle (5), Carlton Colville (7), Corton (3), Easton Bavents (2), Hopton (7), Kessingland (22), Mutford (4), Reydon (34) and Wrentham (1).

It is satisfactory to note that 48 of those houses are going to be provided with a public water supply and 48 show drainage into a sewer.

Under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925, 54 houses have been inspected and recorded in the following parishes:—Barnby (1), Belton (4), Bradwell (1), Burgh Castle (2), Corton (5), Covehithe (1), Carlton Colville (4), Fritton (1), Frostenden (2), Gisleham (3), Hopton (4), Hulver Street (3), Kessingland (4), Mutford (2), Reydon (3), Rushmere (1), Uggeshall (3), Wangford (6), and Wrentham (4).

The following Statutory Notices were served.

Under the Public Health Act 1875. Notice to abate Nuisance, 1. Complied with.

Under Sec. 83. Public Health Act, 1936. Notice to cleanse verminous premises, 1. Complied with.

Under Sec. 11. Housing Act, 1936. Order for demolition, 2. Notice for occupier to quit after Demolition Order, 1.

Under Sec. 9. Housing Act, 1936. Notice to repair, 3.

The usual defects are dampness, defective lighting and ventilation, defective eaves, troughing, closets, dustbins, drains and water supply.

Two new cases of overcrowding were discovered during the year at Hopton and Lound. Both were abated.

Of the 9 cases left over last year 4 have been dealt with.

During the year under Sec. 10 (5) Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, four appeals were heard by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health regarding unsuitable development of sites.

(1) Development on a site at Belton adjoining Lound Waterworks, where the drainage would be liable to contaminate the water supply.

(2) Site at Gisleham where the public services were not available, only two houses were to be erected.

(3) Development on a site at Kessingland was refused owing to lack of public services.

(4) Development on a site at Bradwell was limited to 9 houses.

Owing to coast erosion at Kessingland, four houses have been rendered unfit for habitation, and seven more are too dangerous to live in.

The Housing (Rural Workers) Act is administered by the County Council and certain properties have been reconditioned under this scheme. In some cases it is used to evade a Demolition Order.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

At the end of the year there were 6 Factories and 50 Workshops on the Register. They are as follows:—*Factories*, Foundry (1), Brickworks (2), Motor Engineer (1), Laundry (1), Fat and Bone Works (1).

Workshops :—Bakehouses (7), Smiths (14), Carpenters (10), Saddlers (4), Cobblers (3), Cycle repairers (4), Laundries (3), Motor engineers (3), Engineers (1) and Mason (1).

All were conducted in a satisfactory manner. One laundry chimney had again to be kept under observation for smoke pollution and the owner had to be warned. No complaints have been received about the fat and bone works but periodical visits were made.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK-SHOPS ORDERS.

On the Register at the end of the year there were 72 premises registered for wholesale and retail trade, 76 as wholesale and 25 as retail. This gives a total of 173 milk dealers in the district.

There were about 2,738 cows in the district and Grade A (T.T.) herds so far only amount to 65 cows or 2.37 per cent of the total. During the year one Grade A (T.T.) milk producer gave up, one was added and one had his herd slaughtered owing to Foot and Mouth Disease.

Accredited milk producers :—At the end of the year there were 60 on the Register, 6 being added and 10 deducted. Their herds come to the total of 1,816 cows or approximately two-thirds of all the cows in the area. A very satisfactory figure and the highest in East Suffolk.

There were 15 applications to register and 11 written notices were issued, 8 of which were complied with by the end of the year. Two new cowsheds have been built and several premises have been improved.

It has not been found necessary to stop the sale of milk on account of infectious disease in any case. Cowmen are put off dairy work in case of infectious disease in the home and in 3 cases handlers of milk had blood samples taken for Paratyphoid B. All proved negative.

No complaints have been received as to the quality of the milk. The taking of samples is under the administration of the County Council and so also are samples taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. In neither case have I heard of any complaints. During the year under the arrangement with the County Medical Officer, samples of milk from 12 farms representing 97 cows were taken for examination for Tubercle Bacilli. Of the 18 samples reported on all were negative.

There was one case where a neighbouring district reported tuberculous milk as coming from this area. Under Sec. 4, (Milk and Dairies Consolidation) Act 1915, samples were taken from two herds with negative results. In this case the wholesaler received milk from several other farmers as well.

The majority of cow keepers in the district continue to take steps to provide cleaner milk and bottled milk is becoming more common. By delivering milk in bottles the farmer makes sure that the customer receives milk in the same condition as it left the farm and avoids contamination by road dust, etc.

Three farms are producing Grade A (T.T.) milk, one having giving up during the year and one was added. Unfortunately owing to foot and mouth disease two herds had to be destroyed, one of which was a T.T. herd. One firm has a licence to sell pasteurized milk.

I hope the milk producers in the district will enter for any clean milk competition that may be organized by the County. There is a small entry fee, but the farmer get full value for that in the reports he gets of his samples. If they are not satisfactory he can get advice as to the points where contamination is liable to occur and by dealing with those he can note the improvement in the quality of the milk and at the same time he can realize why we advocate clean overall and hands, grooming the cows to keep them clean, frequent washing of the milkers' hands to prevent spreading infection from one cow to another, keeping the first milk from the teat out of the milk pail, milking with dry hands, and last but not least, cooling the milk as quickly as possible to as low a temperature as can be obtained.

In order to show the importance of cooling, I quote an experiment made to show that the lower the temperature of the milk the fewer bacteria are grown.

BACTERIA PER C.C.			
Temperature	New drawn	12 hours old	24 hours old
40° F	3243	3188	3206
50° F	3243	3381	11,872
60° F	3243	4050	123,562
70° F	3243	19,312	1,666,800

A simple test for the farmer is to see how long the milk will keep before going sour. Good milk ought to keep sweet for 3 or 4 days but I have seen milk delivered which was sour the next morning.

A sterilizing plant is one of the first essentials as no amount of ordinary washing will give the same result as steaming the utensils. There is on the market at the present time an economical arrangement by which the ordinary copper may be converted into a low pressure steam sterilizer.

If the cowman understands why he has to do certain things to produce clean milk and does them there is no difficulty in producing milk even of certified standard, and unless the farmer can give the towns milk with a reasonable guarantee of purity the towns will not have it, but will insist on having the milk made safe by pasteurization.

In the provision of Milk for Schools scheme, the Medical Officer of Health has to guarantee that the milk is safe and this cannot be done unless it is efficiently pasteurized.

At one school where milk was provided one sample was reported as not up to standard but the next sample was satisfactory.

The Accredited Milk Scheme has had very satisfactory results as most of the larger dairy farms in the district have qualified for a Grade A licence. A steam sterilizer is now an essential for a licence. In some cases the buildings are old fashioned but in spite of that a reasonably clean milk is produced.

Under the Tuberculosis Order (Animals) Act 1925, No.2, nineteen animals have been reported as slaughtered on account of disease.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are 19 in the district licensed for the year. All are visited as frequently as is possible in a scattered rural district since the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 came into force. 410 cattle, 19 cows, 15 calves, 237 sheep and lambs and 4808 pigs were inspected, giving a total of 5489 carcasses inspected. This work reflects great credit on the Sanitary Inspector.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	575	25	30	520	7000 (approx)
Number inspected	410	19	15	237	4808
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcase condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	12	—	—	3	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	3.2	—	—	1.3	0.35
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcase condemned	2	1	—	—	4
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	36	1	—	—	344
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.3	10.5	—	—	7.2

Diseased meat if necessary is dealt with at the Fat and Bone Works at Oulton. It has not been found necessary to report any butcher's shop for being in a dirty condition.

Humane killers are in general use and appear to give satisfaction.

The slaughterhouses are in the following parishes :—Belton (1), Benacre (1), Blundeston (2), Burgh Castle (2), Carlton Colville (2), Gisleham (2), Kessingland (2), Reydon (3), Somerleyton (1), Wangford (1) and Wrentham (2).

There is one Knacker's Yard in the added area at Hulver Street which has received frequent visits.

Seven bakehouses have been inspected and found in a satisfactory condition.

SHELLFISH—There are no shellfish beds or layings in or adjoining the district.

No cases of food poisoning have been reported.

Public Health Officers of the Authority :—

Medical Officers of Health.

Sanitary Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector (appointed June, 1935)
(Meat Inspector's Certificate, July, 1937).

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Infectious Diseases—Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever cases are admitted to the Oulton Isolation Hospital which has accommodation for 12 patients on the basis of 144 square feet per bed. Measles, Influenza and Pneumonia cases have also been admitted when considered necessary.

Ordinary medical and surgical cases are admitted to the Lowestoft and North Suffolk Hospital, the Great Yarmouth General Hospital, Gorleston Cottage Hospital, the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Beccles Cottage Hospital and Southwold Cottage Hospital. Oulton Infirmary provides accommodation for the sick poor.

Tuberculosis treatment is administered by the East Suffolk County Council. The male and females cases are treated at Normanston Sanatorium in the Borough of Lowestoft and female cases are also treated at Ipswich Sanatorium. A certain number of cases of either sex is admitted to the Oulton Poor Law Infirmary where they are treated in special open air wards.

Non-pulmonary cases are treated in the Lowestoft General Hospital and Southwold Hospital, under arrangements made by the County Council.

Venereal Diseases are also under the administration of the County Council and are treated at the Lowestoft General Hospital. A specialist holds two sessions a week on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings.

Maternity and Child Welfare is also administered by the County Council, there are two centres in the district at Kessingland and Wrentham, which are reported on above.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia treatment is under the County Council as they are the authority for Maternity and Child Welfare. Arrangements have been made for bacteriological examination, consultation, nursing and removal to hospital if necessary. Patients requiring Hospital treatment are sent either to the Lowestoft Isolation Hospital or the Lowestoft General Hospital.

A Joint Smallpox Hospital situated in the Parish of Carlton Colville has accommodation for 4 patients (on the basis of 144 square feet per bed). It is shared with the Borough of Lowestoft. There has been a great reduction in the number of Smallpox cases in England and Wales during the year, only four cases being notified but it is well to remember there were over 11,000 cases in 1930. In 1931 arrangements were made with the Borough of Ipswich by which it was agreed that our surplus cases could be treated in their Smallpox Hospital. By this means a large capital expenditure is avoided.

Smallpox contacts come into the district and vaccination is going out of fashion, although now only one mark is required, so sooner or later we may expect an outbreak.

The risk of Encephalitis following vaccination is very small and is less likely to occur after vaccination in infancy than at other ages.

No vaccination have been carried out under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917 but it ought to be widely known that the public vaccinators will vaccinate or re-vaccinate any person free of charge.

MORTUARY ACCOMMODATION—In February, 1935, an arrangement was made with the Borough of Lowestoft to receive bodies from the Rural District if required in return for an annual payment and so much for each case. During the year it was used on occasions.

MIDWIVES—There are 10 living in the district who notified their intention to practice, 6 of these are district nurses. There have been no new nursing associations formed during the year.

Institutional treatment of unmarried mothers is provided at the Oulton Infirmary.

Ambulance facilities for (a) infectious cases. A motor ambulance is kept at the Isolation Hospital and a horse ambulance is kept at the Smallpox Hospital for Smallpox cases (b) A Red Cross ambulance kept at Lowestoft is available for accident or non-infectious cases. There are also motor ambulances at Beccles and Southwold available.

LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and Bacteriological work is carried out at the County Laboratory, Bond Street, Ipswich, and practitioners can have swabs for Diphtheria, blood for Widal tests and sputum for Tubercle Bacilli examined and reported on.

A supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin is stored in every parish, where it is available for immediate use by medical practitioners. As there were no cases of Diphtheria during the year there was no call for it. Each holder of the Antitoxin is provided with an addressed postcard, to report that it has been used, then there is no delay in replacing it.

Adopted Acts and Urban Powers :—In addition to those set out in my report for 1925. In 1935, Sec. 160 of the Public Health Act, 1875 was adopted for part of the Parish of Carlton Colville with regard to the numbering of houses. In August, 1936, under Sec. 82 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, byelaws for the regulation of the foreshore became operative. On December 1st, 1936, revised bye-laws for New Streets and Buildings came into force.

In November, 1937, Sec. 160 (1) of the Public Health Act 1875, was adopted for part of the Parish of Reydon with regard to the numbering of houses.

OULTON ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

On January 1st there were 13 cases in Hospital from 1936 (9 males and 4 females). From the Lothingland Rural District 10. 9 Scarlet Fever (7 males and 2 females) and 1 Pneumonia (female). From Wainford, 1 Scarlet Fever (female). From the Loddon Rural District, 2 Scarlet Fever (males).

During the year 85 cases were admitted (39 males and 46 females) so the total number treated was 98 (48 males and 50 females). The total number discharged was 87 (43 males and 44 females). There was 1 death (male) during the year. At the end of the year there were 10 (4 males and six females) remaining in Hospital.

Of the 85 cases admitted 28 (12 males and 16 females) were from the Lothingland Rural District ; 32 (18 males and 14 females) from the Bungay Urban District ; 5 (2 males and 3 females) from the Wainford Rural District ; 17 (5 males and 12 females) from the Loddon Rural District ; and 3 (2 males and 1 female) from the Borough of Beccles.

The 28 cases from the Lothingland Rural District were made up as follows :—

Scarlet Fever 21 (11 males, 10 females).

Paratyphoid B. 2 (females.)

Measles 3 (females).

Bacilluria 1 (male).

Urticaria 1 (female).

From the Bungay Urban District.

Scarlet Fever 32 (18 males and 14 females).

From the Wainford Rural District.

Scarlet Fever 3 (1 male 2 females).

Diphtheria 2 (1 male and 1 female).

From the Loddon Rural District.

Scarlet Fever 17 (5 males and 12 females).

From the Borough of Beccles.

Scarlet Fever 3 (2 males and 1 female).

MAINTENANCE.

The Scarlet Fever patients had 2461 days maintenance, those from the Rural District 720 days ; from Bungay Urban District 1029 days ; from Wainford Rural District 89 days ; from Loddon Rural District 537 days ; and from Borough of Beccles 86 days.

The Diphtheria patients had 24 days, all from Wainford Rural District.

The Enteric patients had 73 days, all from the Rural District.

From the Rural District : Pneumonia 8 days, Measles 43 days, Bacilluria 17 days, and Urticaria 12 days.

The total number of days maintenance of patients was 2,638, those from the Rural District 873 days ; from the Bungay Urban District 1,029 days ; from Wainford Rural District 113 days ; from Loddon Rural District 537 days, and from the Borough of Beccles 86 days.

The average daily number of patients was	7.227
From the Rural District	2.392
„ „ Bungay Urban District ..	2.819
„ „ Wainford Rural District ..	0.309
„ „ Loddon Rural District ..	1.471
„ „ Borough of Beccles .	0.236

The fatal case was a severe case of Diphtheria, a boy aged 13 from the Wainford Rural District who died after one day in Hospital.

During the year Grade A (T.T.) milk continued to be supplied. Although it costs a little more, the majority of the patients are children and I have no doubt it increases their resistance to disease and so hastens their recovery.

The Morris motor ambulance continues to work in a satisfactory manner. During the year the petrol tank and radiator had to be repaired owing to leaks. The year's mileage was 2,520 miles, which is almost as much as last year, which was a record.

Improvements during the year. The ward grates were rebuilt with a view to economy in coal, this was justified by the efficiency of the hot water heating system.

I have to thank all the Officials whom I have come in contact with during the year for the kindness and courtesy they have shown in assisting me.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

LAURENCE GIBSON.

TABLE OF ADMISSIONS DURING THE LAST 5 YEARS.

	1933			1934			1935			1936			1937		
	In Hospital	Admissions	Deaths	In Hospital	Admissions	Deaths	In Hospital	Admissions	Deaths	In Hospital	Admissions	Deaths	In Hospital	Admissions	Deaths
Lothingland R.D.	0	10	0	2	30	1	4	21	1	3	50	0	9	21	0
	0	5	0	0	7	2	0	6	0	0	9	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	5	0
Bungay U.D.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	32	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wainford R.D.	0	1	0	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	3	0
	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loddon R.D.	0	5	0	2	17	0	1	4	0	1	21	0	2	17	0
	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	7	0	0	3	1	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Borough of Beccles	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Depwade R.D.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

TABLE SHOWING AGE INCIDENTS OF CASES ADMITTED DURING THE
LAST 5 YEARS.

Years	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	over 65	Total
1933								
Scarlet Fever	0	3	9	2	2	0	0	16
Diphtheria	1	1	6	0	2	0	0	10
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total—	1	4	15	2	4	0	0	26
1934								
Scarlet Fever	0	10	29	14	8	2	0	63
Diphtheria	0	2	5	4	0	0	0	11
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total—	0	12	34	18	8	2	0	74
1935								
Scarlet Fever	0	2	24	1	1	3	0	31
Diphtheria	0	2	3	3	4	1	0	13
Enteric Fever	0	0	1	4	2	2	0	9
Total—	0	4	28	8	7	6	0	53
1936								
Scarlet Fever	0	12	54	3	7	2	0	78
Diphtheria	0	3	9	0	1	0	0	13
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	4
Total—	0	15	66	3	9	2	0	95
1937								
Scarlet Fever	0	19	47	5	4	1	0	76
Diphtheria	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Enteric Fever	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Pneumonia, Measles, etc. }	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	5
Total—	0	19	52	7	5	2	0	85

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Year	Lothian R.D.				Other Districts		
	Patients		Bedding		Patients		Annual Mileage
	Journeys	Miles	Journeys	Miles	Journeys	Miles	
1922 (9 months)	12	116	34	329	14	399	844
1923	22	247	86	919	2	70	1236
1924	20	167	69	469	7	224	850
1925	53	391	119	977	8	239	1607
1926	19	154	58	488	19	553	1195
1927	17	120	64	547	19	565	1232
1928	34	207	98	746	21	624	1577
1929	38	293	87	778	28	826	1897
1930	71	711	113	1228	18	542	2481
1931	18	131	59	446	9	336	913
1932	21	188	67	573	10	283	1044
1933	13	102	51	455	13	344	901
1934	31	285	78	659	39	911	1855
1935	32	434	83	1062	22	511	2007
1936	53	605	97	1238	25	713	2556
1937	25	302	58	780	50	1438	2520

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres)	44,653
Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid 1937	14,420
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Book	4,703
Rateable Value	£58,100
Sum represented by a penny rate	£235

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are farming, fishing, market gardening. In the last few years summer camps have become a feature of the coastal parishes, about 2,000 people being housed in six camps. In these the visitors sleep in wooden huts, each with one or two beds, and have common dining and recreation rooms, thus they enjoy the maximum of sunshine which is an enviable feature of East Anglia.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total Males		Females.	Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 15.25
Live Births	Legitimate Illegitimate	214 6	115 3	99 3	
Still Births		6	3	3	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 26.5
Deaths		179	99	80	Death rate per 1000 of estimated resident population 12.41

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List.)

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29.—Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
No. 30.—Other puerperal causes	0	0
Total ..	0	0

Death rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births:—	45.45
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births..	46.73
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ..	21
„ „ Measles (all ages) ..	2
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

HOUSING.

I—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	94
	(b)	Number of inspections, made for the purpose	190
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub. head. (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	54
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	107
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	6
(4)		Number of dwelling housing (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head.) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	41

II—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

		Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority in their officers	33
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III—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a)	<i>Proceedings under Sec. 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.</i>		
(1)		Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(2)		Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
	(a)	by owners	4
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b)	<i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</i>		
(1)		Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2)		Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
	(a)	By owners	2
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owner	0

(c) <i>Proceedings under Sec. 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.</i>		
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order	11
(d) <i>Proceedings under Sec. 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>		
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
IV <i>Housing Act, 1936. Part IV Overcrowding.</i>		
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	5
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	5
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	43
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	6
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	42
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	10	2	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	28	0	0
Workplaces (other than Outworker's premises)	0	0	0
Total	38	2	0

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of defects.			No. of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Act :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	1	1	0	0
Want of ventilation .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of floors .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other nuisances	1	1	0	..
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient .. .. .	..	..	..
	unsuitable or defective .. .. .	..	..	..
	not separate for sexes .. .. .	..	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-houses (s. 101) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other offences .. .. .	..	..	..	..
(Excluding offences relating to out-work and offences under Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				

Total	2	2	0	0

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

NATURE OF WORK.	Instances	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wearing Apparel—			
Making, etc.			
Cleaning and washing			
Household linen			
Lace, lace curtains and nets			
Curtains and furniture hangings			
Furniture and upholstery			
Electro-plate			
File making			
Brass and brass articles			
Fur pulling			
Cable and chains			
Anchors and grapnels			
Cart gear			
Locks, latches and keys			
Umbrellas, etc.			
Artificial flowers			
Nets, other than wire nets			
Tents			
Sacks			
Racquet and tennis balls			
Paper, etc., boxes paper bags			
Brush making			
Pea picking			
Feather sorting			
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.			
Stuffed toys			
Basket making			
Chocolates and sweetmeats			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.			
Textile weaving			
Lampshades			
Total			

Nil

LAURENCE GIBSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

April 15th, 1938.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1937.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year 1937.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS.

Under Housing Acts	..	..	..	285
Cowshed and Dairy	..	..	..	269
Meat and Foods	..	..	..	1069
Factory and Workshop	..	..	..	38
Building	..	..	..	420
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	480
Total				2,561

NOTICES ISSUED.

	No.	Complied with	Outstanding
Informal	56	43	13
Statutory			

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION :—Thirty-three houses were disinfected with formalin gas and spray and thirty lots of bedding and clothing removed for steam disinfection at the Isolation Hospital.

HOUSING :—Sixty-two houses were inspected for defects under Public Health or Housing Acts, and 155 houses were inspected and measured under the 1935 Act.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES :—There were on the registers at the end of the year :—

Wholesale and Retail Purveyors	..	..	72
Wholesale only	..	..	76
Retail only	..	..	25
Total			173

Fifteen applications for registration were received and approved. Eleven notices were issued and eight were complied with by the end of the year. In many cases it has been possible to remedy defects and secure better methods by verbal notices and instructions. Several premises have been altered and improved during the year and two new cowsheds have been built.

Twelve samples from 97 cows were sent to the County Laboratory and tested for tubercle bacilli and all were reported satisfactory.

An outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the Autumn caused a temporary suspension of the work of inspection.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS :—This work takes up a large proportion of time and entails a great deal of travelling. Several of the butchers are in the wholesale trade and more than 80 per cent of the meat inspected is consumed outside the District.

Visits to slaughter-houses and shops numbered 1,069 and 5,489 carcasses were examined.

The weight of unsound meat condemned and destroyed was approximately 7,710 lbs.

All the condemned meat was voluntarily surrendered and there was no case of legal proceedings.

BAKEHOUSES :—These have all been inspected and conditions generally have been satisfactory.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS :—As in previous years, the most important of these have been visited and there is nothing special to report concerning them. Two informal notices concerning factories have been given and both were complied with.

SHOPS ACTS :—There are comparatively few shops in the area and most of them are quite small. Two notices were served to remedy defects and both were complied with.

SCAVENGING AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL :—The parishes of Kessingland and Reydon have regular collections of house refuse. In the first-named parish the work is done by the Council's employees and in the other by a Contractor. Controlled tipping is the method of disposal in both cases. This work has been generally well done, and the complaints received have been few.

The Kessingland sewerage works have come through a difficult season fairly well. Some repairs to plant have been necessary and blockages in the London Road sewer have given a bit of trouble.

The original pumps at Reydon pumping station being too worn to render efficient service, were replaced by two Blackstone "Unchokeable" pumps, and so far these are satisfactory.

NEW BUILDINGS :—Of the 99 Plans deposited, 81 were approved under the Building Byelaws.

Thirty-eight Houses were erected by private enterprise, 20 by the Council and 24 by the Borough of Southwold.

The Holiday Camps continue to enlarge and there is some improvement in the type of building erected.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. O. ADCOCK,

Sanitary Inspector & Building Surveyor.

